

Three epidemiological surveillance platforms: A unique approach towards “One Health” surveillance in France

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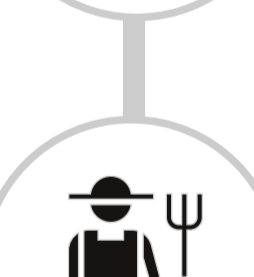

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CONTEXT

In the recent years, France has been developing a unique “One Health” approach for epidemiological surveillance based on a combination of three platforms, each focusing on a specific area: animal health, plant health or food chain surveillance

ORGANIZATION





The platforms have a common governance approach and involve private and public organisations responsible for monitoring health hazards:

-  The French Government
-  Scientific support organisations
-  Official laboratories
-  Agricultural technical institutes
-  Farmers' and veterinarians' representatives
-  Processing, distribution and catering sectors

Partnership between private and public organisations optimises activities and costs by pooling resources, skills and tools

OBJECTIVES

Coordination between platforms aims to:

-  **Develop** a collective culture common to all three areas about cross-cutting notions and concepts such as “One Health” and data quality
-  **Identify** health issues that require the development of an integrated surveillance approach for all three domains
-  **Establish** the cooperation needed in order to work together on transversal issues such as surveillance evaluation
-  **Foster** technology transfers and share experience and skills

EXAMPLE:

Salmonella surveillance

A first application of inter-platform collaboration will focus on *Salmonella* surveillance all along the food chain and particularly within the cattle, pig and poultry sectors. Joint activities will include, among others, an evaluation of the national *Salmonella* surveillance system performed by a mixed team of members from both animal health and food chain surveillance platforms

The potential for synergies, including the development of health indicators and the use of whole genome sequencing for *Salmonella* characterization and epidemiological investigations will also be explored

CONCLUSION

Three platforms for epidemiological surveillance have been set up in France and are now operational. They are designed to help prevent and control health risks by ensuring effective epidemiological surveillance in animal, plant and human health domains, from primary production through to the consumer. An inter-platform organisation was established to facilitate synergies and continuity in inter-platform collaboration